

DICTIONARY SOUNDS

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The onomatopoeic comic-book words exhibited by John McClellan in the August 1980 Word Ways are undeniably outlandish. However, it is worth noting that fact (dictionary words) can be just as odd as fiction (comic-book coinages). To prove my point, I have selected fifty words from the English Dictionary (two for each letter except X), all having something to do with interjections, cries, moaning, mumbling and so on. To me, the words on this list seem even stranger than many of the ones McClellan cites.

adee	ha!
alas-at-ever	exclamation of pity
blaflum	nonsense, idle talk
bonneswish	rapidly
curflummox	used of a heavy fall
curwurring	murmuring, rumbling
dthong	a painful pulsation
dundiefecken	a stunning blow
edley-medley	confusedly
eggtaggle	immodest conduct
fialgrs	an exclamation of surprise
fwyee-ahha	a peculiar noise made in speaking to a horse
gabbie-labbie	confused talking
gweek-gwak	the noise or squeak of boots
hooi	(of the wind) to whistle
hoolybuss	a tumult
iky-piky	an exclamation of surprise
iulga	the rapid motion of waves
jidderty-jadderty	moving irregularly
jurrie-worrieing	a growling noise like that made by a dog
keoup	to bark incessantly
killiemahon	confusion
lackanee	alas!
lalthdrum	noisy, foolish talk
munge-munge	to grumble in low, indistinct tones
murmell	to coo like an infant
naff	to bark, to yelp
ninny-niawing	whinnying
oieet	a call to horses to turn to the right, away from the driver
oob	to howl
parwhobble	to talk quickly

peet-peet-peet	a call to turkeys
quaalk	a heavy blow
quackle	the noise made in choking
reemle-rammle	a great noise
ric	a call to pigs
scarnoghin	a great noise
skeyld	the sound of gentle wavelets or ripples breaking on the beach
thwang	a severe blow
toots-toots	an exclamation, especially of expostulation
ugg	to vomit
uggin-woy	a call to a horse or plough-ox to turn toward the driver
voke	to make an effort to vomit
vumfra	a heavy slap
wainder	an expression of bewilderment
whappet	a blow with the hollow of the hand
yaalta	an expression used to prevent a person doing something
yelly-hooing	yelling
zemmies	an exclamation of surprise
zleads	an oath

PATTERN AND NONPATTERN WORDS OF 7 AND 8 LETTERS

This is the title of the second in a series of pattern word lists published by Raja Press in Norman, Oklahoma (the first volume, covering words of length 2 through 6, was reviewed in the November 1977 Word Ways, and a few copies are still available). Using the words in Webster's Seventh New Collegiate expanded to include variant forms (paid, pays, paying in addition to pay), this book groups approximately 38,000 words of 7 and 8 letters according to pattern:

- 1234321 deified, reviver, rotator
- 12334521 cinnamic, golliwog, pulledup, serrates, speedups, tommyrot
- 12344523 pressure, stellate

As the second line indicates, the computer ignores spaces in forming patterns. This is a most valuable resource for crypt-solvers and word-researchers, particularly in view of the fact that the more comprehensive Levine lists are no longer in print.

Copies are available for \$11.70 postpaid from Richard V. Andree, 601 Elm Street, Room 423, Norman OK 73019 (the earlier volume costs \$10.50).